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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Masayuki FURUHASHI et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2825**

Serial Number: **10/695,650**

Examiner: **Victor V. Yevsikov**

Filed: **October 29, 2003**

PTO Confirmation No.: **4075**

For: **SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE FABRICATION METHOD AND
SEMICONDUCTOR FABRICATION CONTROL METHOD**

Attorney Docket No.: **032077**

Customer No.: **38834**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendments

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

May 18, 2004

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Arguments/Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.